Dear Parents and Students,

The spring semester has flown by with many amazing events and accomplishments to report on. We like to use this space to focus on the talent, motivation, and accomplishments of our students all around campus. In April, the student run Campus Entertainment Network (CEN) sponsored Spring Weekend with 1,575 students attending the Spring Concert, 1,000 students attending Friday afternoon’s quadfest, and over 2,000 students attending a Saturday afternoon block party with rides, contests, music and food outdoors at North Campus. The previous weekend our campus radio station (WQRI) sponsored an outdoor concert with the Alex Marley Band drawing 800 students.

This year for Alternative Vacation Break Service Trips we had more students than ever participate with 51 Students in the Winter or Spring break service trips and an additional 10 students who are currently on a Habitat for Humanity build project on the New Jersey shore. Our Winter break trip went to Tutwiler, MS; the Habitat Spring break trip went to Manistique, MI – Hiawatha Land, while the Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship Spring break trip worked with Project Homecoming in New Orleans, LA. The Foundation of International Medical Relief Corp (FIMRC) Spring break trip went to the Dominican Republic and offered medical supplies and services. Lastly, we are currently planning a January 2014 trip to Haiti!

Spring semester has been busy with dance, music and theatre events. The Dance Club Show was a huge success on April 10th with 23 pieces choreographed by students. The Dance Theatre in Concert had their performance on May 3rd-6th. RWU’s Instrumental Ensemble performed on May 7th and the RWU Chorus Concert was held on May 10th. In addition, The Laramie Project: Ten Years was performed at the Barn and Avenue Q was a real crack up for the adults!

The 8th bi-annual RWU Poetry Slam took place on April 17th to a standing room only audience. This event has quickly become one of the most anticipated events at RWU. It is a collaboration between the Writing Center, MSU, WQRI, Media Services, Student Advocacy, (and this semester) S.A.F.E. There were fifteen competitors and two sacrificial poets who warmed up the audience and let the judges make their first initial scores. The first place winner was AJ Scerbo, a senior Architecture major, who focused on LGBTQ awareness and support as well as the loss of a loved one. The second place winner was Shannon Pitt, a senior Architecture major, who focused on women’s rights, sexual assault advocacy, and alcoholism and addiction. The third place winner was Olivia McCormick, a senior Political Science major, who focused her poems on the hunger strikes at Guantanamo Bay and the passage of time from childhood to adulthood.

Athletics had a tremendous spring as well. I won’t mention every spring team for the sake of space, but do want to offer some stellar highlights.

Softball finished second in the CCC in the regular season before defeating Endicott 6-3 in the CCC Championship Game for the team’s first conference title since 2002. The Hawks traveled to Montclair State (N.J.) for the NCAA Tournament as the #6 seed in the regional. RWU lost 2-0 to #3 Virginia Wesleyan in the first game but came back to defeat #7 Farmingdale State 2-1 for the program’s first-ever NCAA Tournament win. On the third day, the team was eliminated by #5 DeSales in a 1-0 loss.

Men’s Tennis rolled off its first undefeated season in the Commonwealth Coast Conference since 2010, going 8-0 and earning the top seed in the Commonwealth Coast Conference Tournament. Neil Caniga was named CCC Coach of the Year for the third time in four years. The team advanced to the conference championship match for the sixth straight year.

The Equestrian team had an impressive season finishing second overall in the region. Sailing, meanwhile, continued to perform strong, as the Hawks traveled to Florida to take part in the ICSA Women’s National Championship, Team Racing National Championship, and Coed Dinghy National Championships.

Men’s Track & Field started off with a ninth place finish at USCGA Spring Invitational but later captured their fifth CCC title! Women’s Track & Field started 2013 with two tenth place finishes before placing second at the CCC Championships. Go Hawks!

Lastly, in light of the Newtown, CT tragedy (and other recent events) the Public Safety and Environmental Health & Safety departments have worked collaboratively to develop a comprehensive building safety training presentation. The training consists of two specific but related elements – a focused training on fire safety and building evacuation along with a specialized training on employee response to campus intruder and active shooter situations. President Farish and the Vice Presidents have approved requiring all employees and work study students to complete this training. The training module will be adapted for residence hall use for the coming fall semester.

Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

John J. King, Ed.D
Vice President of Student Affairs
The Department of Student Programs and Leadership had an exciting Spring Semester that had many of our student clubs and organizations hosting successful events and community service that benefited the campus community. This semester saw traditional events occur which resulted in an engaged student body. There are student accounts in this newsletter edition from attending a leadership conference at Providence College to students journeying to the Presidential Inauguration and Atlanta Georgia to take part in a leadership experience.

The SOAR Leadership program had over 50 students participate in the Spring Semester. The SOAR program is a four-tiered leadership series emphasizing the importance of the Social Change Model while involving the three components of leadership: the individual, the group and the community. Our SOAR Students wanted to have their peers learn more about this exciting leadership opportunity and created SOAR Day. This day showed our students supporting the program and engaging their peers into what SOAR is all about how to get involved.

Student Programs staff was able to work with our student leaders to host memorable events during the Spring Semester. A new event hosted by the Student Programs staff was a Social Media Awareness Week. During this week, students were able to engage in conversations around campus and trivia utilizing Facebook and Twitter. Student leaders volunteered as social media technicians to assist in answering questions regarding specific phone applications.

The Class of 2014 hosted their Annual Junior Semi Formal in late March at the Atlantic Beach Club in Newport Rhode Island. With over 300 students in attendance, this classy event allowed students an exciting evening of dinner and dancing on the beach. Our Hollerin Hawks (super fan spirit club) have been hard at work promoting many of our sporting events during the course of the semester. The last Spirit event featured a local food truck present at a Women’s Lacrosse game and allowed fans free food for cheering on their Hawks. The Hollerin Hawks have been seen at many events cheering and bleeding blue and gold spirit. During the last week in April, our Campus Entertainment Network (CEN) hosted its Traditional Spring Weekend. This week of events included a trip to the Red Sox Game, a major concert by B.O.B, comedy performance from Nick Kroll star of FX’s The League, and ending with our carnival and fireworks. Our last major event of the Spring Semester is the College Against Cancer “Relay for Life”; this event is hoping to raise at least $40,000 for the American Cancer Society. This club has had a group of 50 dedicated members working all year to make this event possible.
The highlight of the Spring Semester for the department is the Annual Student Involvement Recognition Banquet which took place on May 7th. This traditional event awards over 60 awards for students involved in clubs, organizations, and leadership positions on campus. Below are some of our top student leader awards:

**Organization Member of the Year:**
Bre’Anna Metts Nixon, MSU

**Club Member of the Year:**
Nicholas Palermo, FIRMC and Film Production Club

**Hawk’s Pride Spirit Award:**
Lenny Carlucci

**Rising Star Awards:**
Karin Beswick, Student Senate

**Award for Individual Excellence:**
Megan Kopf

**Club of the Year:**
SAFE

**Karen Haskell Student Leader of the Year**
Nate Rohman
Abigail Snellings

The Department of Student Programs wants to thank all of the students who successful programed all our Spring Semester events. Students interested in getting involved and leadership opportunities should visit the Department of Student Programs and Leadership, located in the Campus Recreation Center. Staff members are accessible by emailing studentprograms@rwu.edu or calling (401) 254-3088.
Health Services and Student Health Insurance Update
By Anne Andrade, Director of Health Services

Health care and health insurance is often a concern of parents as their sons and daughters depart for college. We at Roger Williams University are actively involved in the health and well-being of our students. Use of the Student Health Service is covered by the undergraduate student fees. All full-time undergraduate day students have access to Student Health Services. There is no charge for visits to the Student Health Services for illness or injury. Charges will be incurred for routine well physical exams, immunizations, lab work, prescription medication and referrals to outside providers. These charges can be submitted to your private health insurance. Charges not covered by your private health insurance will be billed directly to the student by the provider of the service.

Health Service is open 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. After hours, emergency care is provided through Newport Hospital, Rhode Island Hospital or Bristol County Medical Center. Emergency transportation to and from these facilities is provided if needed. Students should contact their CORE/RA or Public Safety at 401-254-3333 for any after-hours medical concern.

I encourage you to check out our web site for specific details.

http://www.rwu.edu/studentlife/studentservices/healthservices/

Looking forward to the fall semester this is a reminder to all returning students.

1. If a student expects to play a sport during the 2013-14 academic year, an updated physical will be required. This is best done over the summer break. Please contact Athletics for details.

2. Non-athletes are only required to have the initial admissions physical.

3. Remember that Health Service is a great resource for wellness; in particular we have smoking cessation counseling and reduced cost nicotine patches for any student seeking help with smoking cessation.

4. Students should carry a current private insurance card and have a copy on file at Health Service as well.

An Important Message for Parents Regarding Student Health Insurance at Roger Williams University

In our ongoing focus on ensuring that all Roger Williams University students have access to a strong array of healthcare options, and in keeping with the new federal health care reform requirements, we would like to provide you with some important information on how we offer and administer health insurance for our students.

For Residential and International Students:

All undergraduate and Master’s in Architecture students living in University housing, and international students on an F-1 or J-1 visa must be covered by an adequate health insurance policy. Those students who are covered under an existing health insurance plan must waive if they do not wish to be automatically enrolled in the University-sponsored student health insurance.

Waivers are not automatically carried over from year-to-year, so you must submit a new waiver if you do not wish to be enrolled in the University’s plan, even if you waived for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Those students who cannot provide proof of coverage under an existing plan will be enrolled in the University-sponsored health insurance plan, which is in full compliance with the federal mandate. We have done considerable research on available products with the dual goal of making this coverage both comprehensive and affordable, and are pleased to be able to offer an accident and sickness insurance plan for $1,147 for 12 months of coverage. This cost is comparable to (and in many instances less than) the plans offered by most other schools. Details on the plan can be found here: www.rwu.edu/go/insurance
Health Services and Student Health Insurance Update
By Anne Andrade, Director of Health Services

HOW TO WAIVE:

• If your student is covered under an existing health insurance plan, it is very simple to waive the RWU insurance. Just log on to www.rwu.edu/go/insurance and follow the instructions provided. Students will need to use their MyRWU login information. New students will receive that information approximately two weeks after their deposit is received.

• The deadline to waive is August 14, 2013. If a waiver has not been processed by that time, your student will be automatically enrolled in the University plan. As there is a limited period to waive insurance, we strongly encourage you to do so as soon as possible.

• The full cost of the health insurance will appear on the student's bill until the waiver form has been submitted and processed (by the deadline of August 14) and the information transmitted to RWU. At that time, any insurance charge that may have been applied to the bill will be removed.

Those residential and international students who DO NOT have coverage under an existing plan do not need to take any action. The annual fee will appear as a separate charge on the student's bill, with coverage starting August 14, 2013 and continuing until August 13, 2014. Provided fees have been paid, coverage is in effect whether the student is at school, at home or traveling – including study abroad. The insurance card and brochure will be available within the first few weeks of the semester.

Commuter students who wish to enroll in this plan may purchase this insurance directly through CHP at www.rwu.edu/go/insurance.

As has always been our practice, all full-time day students have access to Student Health Services. Visits for illness or injury are covered under the semester fee. Fees will be incurred for well visits, lab work, x-rays, prescriptions and referrals. Therefore, a current insurance card must be on file at Health Services to facilitate direct insurance billing or bills for these services will be directed to the responsible party.

Want more information?

• To obtain more information about the insurance requirements, to waive coverage, or if you are a commuter student wishing to voluntarily enroll, please go to www.rwu.edu/go/insurance

• For information about Health Services at RWU, visit www.rwu.edu/campus-life/health-counseling

We look forward to providing for your student's health and wellness needs while they are here. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact Karen Lebreux at Health Services. She can be reached at 401-254-3156 or via email at klebreux@rwu.edu.
Roger Williams University Highlights “Endangered” Foods on Earth Day

Bon Appétit Management Company cooks up new twist for sixth annual Low Carbon Diet Day

By Stephanie Colliton-Keith, Bon Appetit Controller/Marketing Manager

On Earth Day 2013, Roger Williams University turned their Upper Commons into a fun culinary classroom for the latest climate-change information.

Roger Williams University’s food services provider, Bon Appétit Management Company, has celebrated its Low Carbon Diet Day in conjunction with Earth Day since 2008 — the first in the industry to address how food choices can affect our shifting atmosphere. This year, in a hot new twist, guests at the Upper Commons and at other Bon Appétit cafés across the United States got a real taste of how climate change is already endangering certain beloved food crops.

At the Upper Commons, Bon Appétit’s chefs used a cooking demonstration — for cheeseless pizzas — to discuss these global agriculture trends, as well as to encourage guests to choose planet-friendlier foods.

Bon Appétit Management Company began celebrating Low Carbon Diet Day one year after the 2007 launch of its Low Carbon Diet program. The goal of this companywide event: to spur our guests to join us in reducing their contributions to climate change.

To help this process, the company created its Top Five Low Carbon Diet Tips, which included “You Bought It, You Eat It - Don’t Waste Food” and “Mooove Away From Beef and Cheese.” Bon Appétit has reduced its own purchases of beef by 33% and cheese by 10% since launching the program — and many of the cheeseless pizzas first introduced on Low Carbon Diet Day have become beloved menu staples at its college and corporate accounts. Meanwhile, its new Stem-to-Root culinary program, from which the LCD Day carrot-peel-topped veggie burger is drawn, is the latest approach in its ongoing campaign to combat food waste.

“Low Carbon Diet Day gives my team a chance to show off our creativity in the service of something bigger than ourselves,” said Executive Chef, Robert Lavoie. “We’re passionate about this campaign and have long been committed to helping people think about how important their food choices are.”

To prepare for this year’s theme, “Your Lunch is Heating Up!”, Bon Appétit commissioned a review of more than four dozen scientific papers projecting how important crops such as corn, wheat, rice, fruit, dairy and coffee would fare in a changing climate. That information was then distilled into signage and live performances.
Teach Your College Student to Be a Packrat

As you pack the car and then move your college student into his/her dorm room or apartment, you may wish that he/she had less “stuff”. Interestingly, when it comes time to move your student out of his dorm room or apartment, the “stuff” seems to have multiplied. So why, then, might we suggest that you should teach your student to be more of a packrat and hold on to more things? We are not suggesting that your student needs to hold on to everything. Much of what your student accumulates during his college years can easily go by the wayside. However, there are a few things that your student should be sure to save – at least until he has his diploma in hand.

Holding on to the following seven things may be important.

• **The college catalog from the year that he/she enters college.** Your student may have a physical, hard copy of the catalog, or it may be online. Your student should make sure that he/she has access to the catalog and that he/she refers to it often. The college catalog will be the source of information about policies and requirements. If requirements should change in subsequent years, your student may be held to the requirements of the year he/she enters college rather than to revised standards. It is important that he/she knows these requirements so that he/she can clarify her needs.

• **All financial receipts from the college financial office or from scholarship or other sources.** It is important to keep a careful record of what you have paid or who has received your money.

• **Copies of all forms turned in.** Before your student turns in forms for anything, dropping or adding a class, withdrawing from a class, registering for a class or registering to take a class pass/fail, or any other required form, he should make a photocopy and keep that copy in a safe place. Mistakes do happen. Forms do get misplaced. It may be important for your student to be able to prove that he completed a form.

• **All e-mail correspondence with college offices and faculty members.** It is often crucial that your student be able to go back to recall a conversation – or to prove that a conversation happened.

• **All paper correspondence and letters from the college.**

• **Some textbooks in his/her major.** Although students are usually anxious to resell their textbooks at the end of the semester, your student should think carefully about whether he may want to go back to the basics in his major, or whether he may need to refresh his/her memory at the time of a capstone class or comprehensive exam during his/her senior year. For the small amount of money that he will probably get from reselling his books, he/she may want to hang on to some of them.

• **Copies of all papers and assignments turned in, including all early drafts, and all tests and/or quizzes returned.** If he/she has copies of papers with grades or comments on, even better. If there is ever a question about a grade or about the originality of your student’s work, having copies of early drafts and copies of tests will help your student support his claim. Your student may also want to include copies of some of his/her very best work when he/she is applying for jobs or graduate school after college.

Although students may not want all of this extra paperwork filling space, and most students may never need this information, if an occasion arises where your student needs to refer to his papers, he will be grateful that he has kept them. Keeping them in an organized, easily accessible file or box, perhaps filed by year or semester, will mean that your student will be able to easily find and use what he needs when he needs it. Although it may mean that you need to fit an extra box in that car for the ride home, it will be well worth it.
The Division of Student Affairs was invited to send students to the Leading With Values Rhode Island Collegiate Conference on February 23. This conference was presented by the Providence College School of Business and Alex and Ani University.

The conference offered students from colleges and universities in Rhode Island the unique opportunity to come together and explore the choices and challenges that are needed for effective values based leadership. The conference is based on the premise that regardless of one’s level of leadership knowledge and skills, effective leadership requires that a leader be conscious of his/her values and live out these values in his/her day-to-day interactions and decision-making with integrity. In other words, values-based leadership is the foundation of effective leadership.

The Division sent 12 freshmen and sophomore upcoming student leaders to learn more about this exciting opportunity. The students that were selected to attend were: Alex Rudkin, Zanquasha Yates, Karin Beswick, Kaitlyn Kline, Matt Mazzie, Brianna Hebert, Chelsea Langord, Stephen Messina, Megan Schultz, Josh Grab, Shane Olesen and Austin Richards.

The opening remarks were presented Giovanni Feroce, CEO of Alex and Ani. Dr. Michael Eriksen, Chair of Department of Management and Professor at Providence College, and Dennis Rebelo, President of Alex and Ani University Professional Development Center.

The students were able to examine their own values, attitudes and beliefs while benefitting from varying perspectives from students from schools throughout Rhode Island. The conference was comprised of interactive workshops and presentations that allowed students to examine their own values, attitudes and beliefs, while being exposed to the various perspectives and support from a group of business leaders in Rhode Island. The conference focused on participants understanding of personal values and goals, and how to use them effectively in their own leadership and within their communities.

In a workshop session titled Establishing Your Leadership Identity: The Structure of Effective Personal Storying, and lead by Erikson and Rebelo, students were introduced to the idea of personal “storying”, how to tell a meaningful story about yourself that allows leaders to connect with others in a more effective way. Kaitlyn Kline, a sophomore student from Milford, MA, said that the session changed the way she looks at the idea of connecting with people, “It was a reminder that each of us comes from different backgrounds and that is what makes us unique.” Rebelo stressed the idea that storying is a way to connect with people by expressing yourself with passion and meaning.

In addition to the morning and afternoon workshops that were led by Business and Academic leaders in Rhode Island, students heard from Andy Posner, the Co-Founder of the Capital Good Fund, during the lunch keynote. Posner developed a model for innovative micro-finance that fights poverty within Rhode Island. Posner echoed the ideas of Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Prize winner and mentor, and stressed to students that even the smallest of actions can have a significant reaction. Posner also discussed how poverty in Rhode Island can be impacted through the Capital Good Fund, which provides financial planning assistance and small loans to residents living below the poverty line.
S.A.F.E. (Sexual Advocacy for Everyone) has been hard at work all year ensuring that the Roger Williams campus community is more aware of issues that affect the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) community.

During the fall semester S.A.F.E. puts on various events that coincided with national events, such as National Coming Out Day, Transgender Day of Remembrance, and World AIDS Day. For this event in December, S.A.F.E. held their annual “Bingo for a Cure” to raise awareness and money for AIDS Care Ocean State, an AIDS organization based in Rhode Island. Each year bingo is hosted by drag queens from the organization and hundreds of students donate through purchasing bingo cards. Miss Kitty Litter and LaDiva keep the audience entertained throughout the night! Bingo for a Cure is one of the most talked about events at Roger Williams because not only is it fun, but students are able to learn about AIDS education and donate to an organization based in the state where they attend school. Bingo for a Cure is a great way for students to contribute to an amazing cause while having a great time.

In April, S.A.F.E. held their annual Pride Week, which they work towards all year. During the week of April 15-19, SAFE held at least two events per day, ranging from LGBTQ trivia in the commons to our culminating Friday night event—a fabulous show by a gender-bending performance troupe that does comedy, music, and dance! Each year, we coordinate Pride Week to intersect with the national Day of Silence. In recognition of this important day, many students choose to remain silent to bring attention to LGBTQ students in high school and college who are forced to be silent about their sexual orientation or gender identity for fear of harassment. Even Roger himself got into the spirit – he was seen wearing a Day of Silence t-shirt throughout the week. To make Pride Week happen, S.A.F.E. worked with the Campus Entertainment Network and the Multicultural Student Union as well as various departments on campus, including the Intercultural Center, Student Advocacy, the Writing Center, and Housing. The entire campus community, including students, staff, and faculty, gets involved in Pride Week and the whole week has a lasting impact at Roger Williams.

S.A.F.E. does more than host events; this year members gave presentations and led discussions in classrooms and at staff/faculty Hawk Ally training. These kinds of interactions give S.A.F.E. members the opportunity to educate audiences about their own experiences being LGBTQ, and allies. These presentations give members of the campus community the opportunity to ask questions and talk about LGBTQ issues that they might not come across during their academic study or outside of classes. These discussions result in a campus that is more open and accepting of LGBTQ identity and that is ready to work towards LGBTQ safety and inclusion. S.A.F.E. welcomes all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, to be club members, or even just attend an event or weekly meeting.

S.A.F.E. Vice President, Allison Pagliaro, next to an anti-homophobic language poster, October 2012
CAREER FAIR 2013
By Robbin Beauchamp, Director of the Career Center

On March 27, the Campus Recreation Center was hopping as 600 students flooded into the Field House to meet with 115 organizations for full time, post-graduation jobs, internships, summer jobs, volunteer opportunities and graduate schools. The Fair was booked by employers weeks before the event. We saw an increase of employers by 20% and an increase in student attendance by over 30%. Many organizations followed-up with interviews both on and off-campus with our students.

The organizations that attended were:

AAA Southern New England
AG Salesworks
Alares LLC
Amenta/Emma Architects
American Surplus Inc.
Amica Mutual Insurance Company
Assumption College Graduate Studies
Atlantis Charter School
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ocean State
Blackstone Valley Prep Mayoral Academy
Boston Public Schools
Brave River Solutions
Bridge Technical Talent
Bridges, Inc.
Bryant University Graduate School of Business
C.E. Floyd Company, Inc.
Camp Grosvenor
Camp Nashoba North
Cellnex Therapeutics
Child and Family
Children’s Museum in Easton
City Personnel, Inc.
City Year
Clean Water Action
Complete Athlete
Concord Police Department
Connecticut Business Systems/Blackstone Valley Office Systems
Consigli Construction Co. Inc.
Cox Communications - Northeast Region
Creative Services, Inc.
D.F. Pray, Inc.
DiLeonardo International
Embrace Home Loans
Enterprise-Rent-A-Car
Federal Air Marshal Service
Federal Bureau of Investigation
FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS
FM Global
GateHouse Media / Wicked Local
Gateway Healthcare, Inc.
Gilbane Building Company
Groden Network
Harvard Graduate School of Design
Hensel Phelps Construction Co
Herreshoff Marine Museum
HireElements (A.W. Hastings)
Hope Gallery
Hope Global
Hutker Architects
IDC Inc. ~ The Newport Experience
John Hancock Financial Network - Independence Financial Partners
Johnson & Wales University
Kaplan Test Prep
Key Program, Inc.
Kirchhoff-Consigli Construction Management
Lasell College
The organizations that attended cont.

Looking Upwards, Inc.
Loureiro Engineering Associates, Inc
Marasco & Nesselbush, LLP
Massachusetts School of Law
Match Education
MEDITECH
Michael Kors
Mill City Construction, Inc.
National Agents Alliance
New York Life
Newport County Convention and Visitors Bureau
Newport Hotel Group
Northeastern University - Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Northwestern Mutual- The Southern New England Group
Office of Mayor William A. Flanagan
Peace Corps
People, Incorporated
Permasteelisa North America
Portland Police Department
Providence Children's Museum
Providence College Graduate Studies
Providence Sports + Entertainment
Prudential Financial
Quinnipiac University
Rhode Island Department of Corrections
Rhodeway Networks
RI Army National Guard
RI Coalition for the Homeless
RI Society of CPAs
Roger Williams University Graduate Programs
Roger Williams University Army ROTC
Sacred Heart University
Salve Regina University
Schimenti Construction Company
Secret Service
Six Flags New England
South Coastal Counties Legal Services
Suffolk University
Swarovski North America LTD
Target
The Children's Workshop
The Preservation Society of Newport County
Thielsch Engineering, Inc
Turino Group Incorporated
TV9 Seekonk
U.S. Department of State; Bureau of Diplomatic Security
University of Rhode Island MBA Programs
US Navy Officer Programs
Vermont State Police
Visiting Nurse Services of Newport & Bristol Counties
Waterfire Providence
Wayne J. Griffin Electric, Inc.
WB Mason Co., Inc.
Wheelock College
Wurth Baer Supply Company
zipcar
Zoo New England
April showers bring May flowers…and BBQ’s!! During the week of April 8, the Department of Residence Life & Housing hosted their annual Spring BBQ’s. Almeida Apartments and Bayside Courts were the first to kick-off the events, holding their BBQ’s on a beautiful Monday afternoon. Bayside created a “Carnival” theme with corn dogs, fried dough, and cotton candy along with traditional barbeque faire. Almeida hosted a “Gladiator Arena” theme where their shirts were a big hit with the students. The event also included large inflatable gladiator jousting and bungee run games.

On south campus, Cedar Hall was the next to host their event, with tons of first year students from coming out for some free food and fun. Music was rocking, burgers were sizzling and an incredible inflatable obstacle course was front and center for everyone to enjoy.

Even as Mother Nature sent some spring storms our way, Willow Hall and North Campus Residence Hall forged on to host their BBQs. The only thing more fierce than the wind coming off the bay was the North Campus competition on the basketball tug of war inflatable. Willow Hall was packed with students from all units who were enjoying the photo booths, carnival games, and amazing live music and DJ. Maple Hall and Stonewall Terrace rounded out the weekend with two great events on Sunday that brought hundreds of students out of their rooms and for more fun in the sun. Maple had an intense game of Four Square going while Jesse and Steve from the Custodial Staff were experts behind the grill, serving up food for everyone. Stonewall residents enjoyed building-wide tee-shirt tie-dying, photo booth fun and time on the basketball tug of war inflatable.

Last, but most certainly not least, was the Baypoint BBQ which included an amazing gourmet dinner with fun prizes and games. Overall the BBQ’s were a hit and an annual Residence Life and Housing tradition that students from every hall enjoyed.

Hawkettes Dance Team Performance

by Haley O’Callaghan ’15

On April 19, the Hawkettes Dance Team was invited to perform at the Worcester State Dance Team’s Annual Benefit Show. This benefit show was to raise funds for Marshall’s Miles. Marshall’s Miles is an organization dedicated to help find a cure for Spinal Muscular Atrophy and provide assistance to its victims and their families. The Hawkettes performed two of their pieces during the show, one choreographed by club president, Eden Couillard ’15, and the second from Dance Club’s choreographer, Kristyn Wajsgras ’13. The performance included many pieces from a variety of schools and local dance studios in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The Hawkettes were invited to perform at the show last fall following their performance at Bridgewater State’s Dance Team Benefit Show.
What to Expect During Summer Vacation!

by Jim Azar, Ph.D., Director, Center for Counseling and Student Development

Although there is no one typical way that students respond to going home for the summer, there is one certainty and that is to expect some changes particularly if your son or daughter is returning after their freshman year.

You may notice a difference in their relationship with friends, with you or with their siblings or in how they view themselves or in what they consider to be important. They may now be in a period of reevaluating their values and priorities and questioning what they (and you) have held as true. For example, long-standing rules of the house may be challenged (“I didn’t have a curfew when I was at school”), and you may notice (and be upset by) any differences in their schedules (“What do you mean can I be quiet? It’s noon”).

Your son or daughter may also feel a vague feeling of rootlessness or sadness early in the summer. They may not feel comfortable anywhere and wonder “where do I belong?” without necessarily being aware that they are asking the question. Feeling lonely or disconnected will be felt more intensely if they have not maintained relationships with their old high school friends or if they are dating someone from RWU who lives several hours away.

Despite the adjustments for both you and your son or daughter, you may be struck by the changes in their maturity. They may have already made decisions about where and with whom they will be living next year, their course schedule, their future plans, etc. To assess how much they have matured, take a moment and notice how you are feeling this summer as compared to the summer following their high school graduation. As they become more responsible, you may feel less worried or unsettled.

The challenge as a parent (as you already know) is how to deal with those changing moods and behaviors during this transition period. As a first step it is always helpful to anticipate the changes before the heat of the moment in order to better deal with them. Over the next month begin to speculate about the adjustments that your son or daughter will need to make when they return home. What has changed over the past year with them and within the family? What issues do you foresee? What emerged during January Break?

It is also helpful to step back a moment and understand what is going on for them developmentally. An important part of forming an identity is to separate from one’s parents and to evaluate what is important in one’s life. This process can occur at different times: high school, college, 30’s, mid-life crisis-and in differing degrees, but the process is inevitable if one is going to eventually feel self-confident and independent. Your son or daughter may be in this questioning and possibly defiant stage. However, it may be easier to flow with it if you can think back to the time in your own life when you were struggling with such issues as “Who am I?” and “What am I doing with my life?”

It is also inevitable that there will be some conflict this summer because whenever there is change and growth, there is always some accompanying tension. To help lessen it, you may want to anticipate what issues and rules you are willing to negotiate before your overloaded family car (van, truck, or 18 wheeler) arrives for the summer. However, there may be some values and expectations that are near and dear to your heart and that are not negotiable. Be clear about them as well as your areas of flexibility.

Needless to say, we wish that you all have a healthy and enjoyable summer!
The Intercultural Center (IC) welcomes people of all nationalities, faiths and personal identities -- it's a place that students call a “home away from home.” The IC had an amazing spring -- celebrating world cultures, launching a new mentoring initiative, expanding our allies program and fostering dialogue on spirituality at RWU.

International Student Affairs
Currently we have 242 international students from 60 countries across the world. The international students enjoyed a great spring semester with events like snow-tubing, a Celtics game and a trip to New York City to see “Newsies.”

The Intercultural Center’s big event this semester was Global Fest, a large international festival in April which featured students from over 40 countries exhibiting cultural displays and offering food, conversation, traditional dress, and pride in their countries. The Intercultural Center invited elementary students from Hugh Cole Elementary in Warren, who enjoyed the entertainment acts by students and by Sinha’ Capoeira, a Brazilian Martial Arts group. This semester also featured the “Hour With” series, which focuses on the culture of various international students including Colombia, Uganda, and Haiti.

Multicultural Affairs
Seven students were hired as our first ever Diversity Leaders – the mentors working for our Diversity Leadership Program. The Diversity Leadership Program is a unique leadership development opportunity open to students of color, first generation college students of any racial identity, students who identify as LGBTQ, international students and other underrepresented first year students (freshman or transfer) at RWU. Diversity Leaders are student advocates who have stepped forward and made a commitment to being diversity allies and advocates for social justice on our campus, in their own lives, and in the world beyond college. They are student advocates who are specially trained in mentoring underrepresented students at RWU.

Also this spring, we held our World Theater program, “Talkin' Bout' My Generation” (TBMG). This semester we were excited to partner with the Multicultural Student Union (MSU) and all of major student organizations. TBMG is a one-woman show that presents diverse characters and stories requested by the next generation of college audiences from the entire United States. Over 120 RWU students attended this event and learned about diverse themes such as living with disabilities, racism, gender identity, body image, being Muslim in a post-911 generation, and other cultural expectations.

Also this spring, we had our first ever Sisterhood and Spa Night in partnership with the Women's Center, where about 25 young women (and even a few young men) joined together in solidarity and talked about race, cultural standards of beauty, street harassment and more over manicures and facials.

The Multicultural Student Union (MSU), advised by the IC’s assistant director, Candice De Los Reyes, also had a great semester of events. They held a very well-attended Lunar New Year with the Asian Student Association to welcome students back to campus. In February, they featured several events in honor of black history month including a soul food dinner, spoken word poetry, traditional step dance, folklore and storytelling, and a discourse on the history of slavery in Bristol. Also this semester, students celebrated MSU’s annual fashion show with opening act, the Burundi Drums Ensemble and an exciting decade's theme.
LGBTQ Student Affairs

This semester was the kick off of our Hawk Ally Program, a new LGBTQ ally training for staff and faculty at RWU. We are proud to say that we had approximately 50 staff and faculty members go through the program and every IC staff member is a Hawk Ally. Students can find proactive allies on campus by looking for a rainbow hawk ally sticker in staff and faculty members’ office space!

During the spring semester SAFE (Sexuality Advocacy for Everyone) planned a successful Pride Week. During the week of April 15-19, SAFE held at least two events per day, including ranging from LGBTQ trivia in the commons to a gender-bending performance group. This year, SAFE worked with the Campus Entertainment Network and the Multicultural Student Union, as well as various departments on campus, including the Intercultural Center, Student Advocacy, the Writing Center, and Housing. The campus community responded positively to Pride Week and each event held was a success! Members of SAFE have also held presentations and discussions in classrooms and at the Hawk Ally training as mentioned above. During these presentations, SAFE E-Board members educated their audiences on their own experiences being LGBTQ and what it means to be LGBTQ on campus. Everyone is welcome at their weekly meetings and at their events during the year.

This semester, with Reverend Nancy Soukup, we also held a film and discussion of Fish Out of Water, a documentary about LGBTQ identity and the bible. Students learned some great tools for responding to incidents of homophobia and transphobia among their peers. The IC plans to have more film and discussion nights about the intersections of multiple student identities.

The Spiritual Life Program

This spring, The Spiritual Life Program welcomed Mufti Ikram ul-Haq as our new Affiliated Chaplain for the Muslim Community. Currently, Mufti Ikram is the Imam and Lecturer at Masjid Al-Islam in North Smithfield, RI, and he holds a Doctorate of Islamic Jurisprudence from the University of Karachi and is very involved in Rhode Island’s interfaith community. His duties include serving as a spiritual counselor to the Muslim students on campus and engaging in interfaith programming on campus.

Catholic Mass, nondenominational prayer meetings, Friday Shabbat gatherings, and daily Muslim prayer are all key components of students encounter with spirituality and religious practice on campus. Additionally this spring, the Jewish and Christian communities celebrated the sacred holidays of Lent and Passover. Ash Wednesday services on campus drew students, staff, and faculty to six services offered by our chaplains. During Lent, the RWU Christian communities sponsored a clothing drive to benefit Mary House, a social service ministry in Providence. And during Passover, our Dining Commons staff prepared traditional dishes for a Seder sponsored by Hillel. That evening the entire student community enjoyed brisket, roasted vegetables, matzah ball soup, and kugel.

Students in faith groups on campus continue to be involved in service opportunities. The InterVarsity Christian Fellowship made another trip to New Orleans during spring break to help in the rebuilding of that city after Hurricane Katrina. A multi-year commitment, nineteen RWU students made the trip this year to work on five different properties throughout New Orleans. IVCF partners with Project Homecoming, a local nonprofit, to work on homes. During the trip, their work varied from demolition, to tiling and painting, to putting the finishing touches on a house ready for occupancy. They also were able to see three finished houses they worked on last year.

Finally, planning has been underway this spring for an Alternative Break Service Trip to Haiti, scheduled for January 2014.
The SOAR Leadership program had an amazing opportunity to participate in a Global Leadership Exchange with Kennesaw State University (KSU) located in Atlanta, Georgia. Students traveled back and forth between Roger Williams University and KSU to study the societal effects of homelessness on our respective communities. Our student travelers have reflected on their experiences and will now share the fruits of their labor!

**Brianna Herbert ’15 wrote:**

During the past few months, SOAR, specifically the Lead tier, has been corresponding with students from Kennesaw State University that are involved in a leadership program of their own called LINK. Students from RWU and KSU have partnered up to study the homelessness in the Rhode Island and Georgia areas.

KSU students visited Rhode Island and together students helped package goods at the Rhode Island Food Bank. After doing service at the food bank, students met with Professor Eric Hirsch from Providence College to discuss the psychological implications of homelessness. In addition, students listened to Professor Irene Glasser from RWU as she explained the sociology of homelessness. After a long day of exploring the many factors of homelessness, RWU and KSU students visited the Newport Mansions, a completely different extreme of societal class. KSU joined SOAR students at their retreat. Together they participated in several leadership activities and discussions. They proceeded to visit the Rhode Island Coalition House where they spoke to several members of the board, including former homeless individuals. The members shared their stories and had students from Brown University who are participating in a program called H.O.P.E.

The students from Brown went house to house asking people in the surrounding neighborhoods to sign a petition in hopes to relocate a shelter to a new location to provide more opportunities for the homeless. They expressed how they faced a large amount of hesitation because of people’s negative connotations with the homeless. Students took a variety of outlooks on homelessness from this meeting. One concept that was heavily explained was that the homeless are PEOPLE, that do not have homes. Regardless of your status on the economic scale, people should be treated as equals ethically.

**Mike Diercksen ’13 wrote:**

A few weeks ago, myself along with 3 other RWU students accompanied by Assistant Director Sean Thompson, arrived in Atlanta, Georgia as the second leg of the leadership exchange with the students of Kennesaw State University. While in Georgia, we began to help our leadership counterparts with their chosen community development project, of increasing homelessness awareness. We were able to visit the Gateway Center, a very prominent support facility for the homeless population in Atlanta.
A Unique Field Trip and Learning Experience cont.
By Sean Thompson, Assistant Director Student Programs and Leadership

Mike Diercksen ’13 cont.

The Gateway Center is a government run agency that is placed in the heart of Atlanta, where people who find themselves to be homeless are welcomed in and given a place to live for anywhere from two weeks up to two years. Gateway caters to all sorts of needs, and has a lot of veterans who walk through its doors, as well as departments set up for visitors who may not be mentally stable. One of the coolest things about Gateway is that they have an RA program very similar to that of most universities. They select some of the most responsible visitors and give them the title of RA, where they live amongst the other visitors, and act as a liaison between the management and the visitors. There was also a career center at Gateway, which focused on getting the visitors stable, and working again while living at Gateway, that way, after their two years, they would be financially capable of living independently with a steady job.

Margaret Sullivan ’14 wrote:

Going to Atlanta was an eye opening experience. It put the concept of homelessness into perspective. Hearing people speak about all the services they offer to this huge population and issue the world faces blew my mind. One shelter we went to was called City of Refuge. At City of Refuge we participated in a community service project. Our task for the service project was to relocate the soil to the new beds in order to create more room for more plants and vegetables to grow. These vegetables such as turnip, carrots and turnips directly went to the kitchen to be cleaned and then process and cooked for dinner to provide those who were utilizing the shelter. City of Refuge is a shelter that provides the essentials for life. City of Refuge includes, shelter (beds), food (daily meals), medical care, educational programs, child daycare services, as well as recreational activities. Located directly in the City of Refuge center is St. Josephs Mercy Care Services. St. Josephs Mercy Care mission is to provide health education, health assessments, and health treatments. Visiting City of Refuge allowed me to see homelessness first hand. The experience and being able to have a direct impact by participating in the service was so for filling and unforgettable.
RWU Campus Team of the National Coalition Building Institute
By Ande Diaz, RWU NCBI Co-Liaison, Associate Dean and Director of the Intercultural Center

The National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) is a Washington, DC based international non-profit, dedicated to prejudice reduction and community building. RWU has a Campus Team that facilitates workshops for student leaders and others interested in developing knowledge around issues of diversity and skills for interrupting oppressive remarks, jokes, slurs, or biased behaviors.

This semester, national trainers came to campus to deliver a “Train-the-Trainer” workshop, to prepare the RWU team to deliver more workshops on campus. The training consists of learning to facilitate an experiential curriculum. The staff team has members from departments across campus including Residential Life, Student Advocacy, Spiritual Life, Conference Services, Student Programs and Leadership, The Intercultural Center, Dining Services, Media Services, Public Safety, Human Resources, Facilities, Athletics, Health Services, and the Dean of Students Office. RWU also added a student team trained to become facilitators of the NCBI diversity workshop.

This team delivers quality trainings to help RWU welcome diversity and become a more inclusive campus. Student leaders who have been trained to date include Residential Advisors, Orientation Advisors, Student Advocates, Admissions Ambassadors, Athletes and students taking the RWU Experience class. An open workshop has also been offered to the general student community. To date, 32 workshops have been held to train over 1,600 students. For information about NCBI at RWU, contact Associate Deans and NCBI co-liasons Allison Chase-Padula at achasepadula@rwu.edu or Ande Diaz at adiaz@rwu.edu.

RWU Students Attend Presidential Inauguration
By Christopher Munsey ’13

The RWU College Democrats have had an exciting year of events, and were fortunate to attend the 57th Presidential Inauguration this past January. Although sponsored by the College Democrats, the twenty-one students who attended came from a variety of involvement and political parties on campus. There may have been some differing political opinions among the group, but each of us came along to see a great part of American history.

Getting tickets to the inauguration isn’t easy, but luckily the club had an advantage. June Speakman, the head of both the RWU Political Science Department, and the Barrington Rhode Island Town Council, very generously provided the students with some of the most sought after tickets of the day. In addition to what turned out to be almost front row seating, the students attended the Rhode Island Delegation Luncheon at the Capitol Hyatt; an event that would give the students a chance to meet almost all of the state’s elected officials. Inauguration Day proved to be as hectic as expected. The commotion in the streets of Washington D.C. was filled with an air of joy as the nation swore in its first African American president for the second time. What made this trip even more unique was that it was many of the student’s first time in Washington. RWU sophomores Chris Gahm and Johnny Hendrickson described the trip as amazing because we were in the presence of history. All of this, along with seeing many of the city’s monuments and museums decked out in red, white, and blue, made this a once in a lifetime experience.
The President’s Core Values Medallion has been established to recognize graduating seniors who best exemplify the core values of the institution. The students awarded this honor have truly embraced the University’s core values: love of learning as an intrinsic value; preparation for careers and future study; collaboration of students and faculty in research; commitment to community service; appreciation of global perspectives; and promotion of civil discourse.

President Farish, working in concert with each of the schools, selected the Presidential Award honorees. Honorees are presented with a unique keepsake medallion – depicting the core values – in recognition of their extraordinary accomplishments and contributions to the Roger Williams University community.

President Farish and the entire Roger Williams University community congratulate this year’s award recipients on this prestigious honor.

Shannon MacLeod Pitt – School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation
Michael D. Isenhour II – School of Continuing Studies
Abigail Snellings – School of Education
Sean Craig Damico – School of Engineering, Computing and Construction Management
Kimberly Brooke Campbell – Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences, Humanities and Performing Arts Division
Hannah Nicole Pearson – Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences, Math and Natural Sciences Division
Thomas John Sojka – Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences, Social Sciences Division
Audra L. Armstrong – Mario J. Gabelli School of Business
Patrick Michael Dolan – School of Justice Studies
Emily M. D’Iorio – At Large
Lauren Kaitlyn Jost – At Large
Elsch Josiah Maisoh Jr. – At Large
Kristen Constance St. Pierre – At Large
2012 Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges

Amanda Ackerson
Victoria Benoit
Willie Borkai
Michael Decoulos
Yamileh Rachel Dure
Ryan Freed
Stephanie Gebo

Kinsey Janke
Erynn Landry
Emily Lebowitz
Rhea Levin
Elsch Maisoh Jr.
Kristen Mariano
Ashlyn Miller
Cameron Muir
Megan Negron
Kelley Nobriga
Matthew Paige
Shannon Pitt
Lauren Riccardi
Brianna Riposa
Alexander Rudkin
Tom Sojka
Kristen St. Pierre
Lauren Tierney

Jennifer Baker
Timothy Blais
Blair Carroll
Danica Donnelly
Lauren Formanski
Charlyn Friedman
Phil Gree
Garrett House
David Kendall
Kaitlyn Lauer
Michelle Lee
Courtney Little
Trevor MacKinnon
Marlene Martinez
Daniel Moran
Kaitlyn Muttitt
Amanda Newman
Christopher O’Keefe
Jeffrey Pini
Jessica Reed
Kassandra Ricci
Celine Rivera
Mia Sargent
Cynthia Spinola
Janani Subramaniam
Katie Wilson

Melissa Carrasquillo Award for Intercultural Citizenship
Bre’ Anna Metts- Nixon

Mark D. Gould Commitment to Student Learning Award
Professor Laura D’Amore, Ph.D.
Professor Annie Winfield, Ph.D.

Karen Haskell Award
Abigail Snellings
Nathan Rohman

Dr. J. Harold G. Way Award
Willie Borkai
Chelsea Silva

Lt. Charles A. Henderson, USN ’99 Spirit Award
Linda Tran
Allison Pagliaro
COMMENCEMENT 2013
If you know others who would be interested in receiving this newsletter, or care to change your e-mail address, please send current email addresses to advancement@rwu.edu.

While every effort has been made to ensure that information is accurate and up to date, we’re writing about a dynamic educational environment, and it is not possible to guarantee that all items will be accurate at all times.